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COWBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

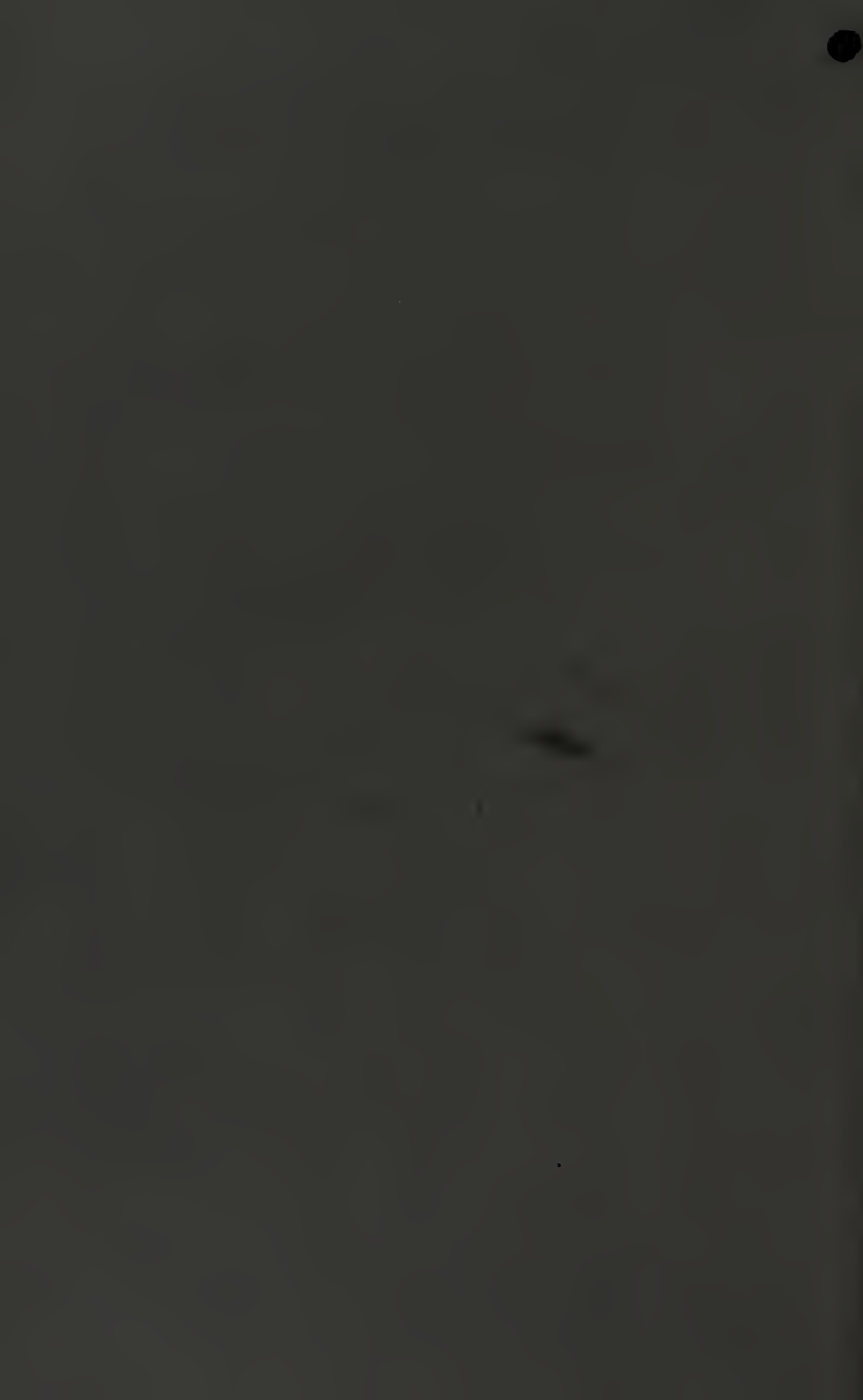


ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH . . .

For the YEAR 1942



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COWBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1942.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Cowbridge Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report of the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the Rural area for the year 1942 drawn up in accordance with Circular 2773 (Wales) dated 10th March, 1943 and Articles 6 (3) and 17 (5) of the Sanitary Officers (outside London) Regulations, 1935 and Article 14 (3) of the Sanitary Officers Order, 1936.

For reason of economy the report has been restricted to essential matters and for security purposes no details of assistance to the enemy have been included.

I have to thank the Officers and Members of the Staff of the Public Health Department for their assistance in the preparation of this report and for their ready help during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

DAVID J. EVANS,

Medical Officer of Health.

July, 1943.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	40,020
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EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

				Crude Bir.R'te.
BIRTH RATE 21.5
Birth Rate for England and Wales		 15.8
Birth Rate of Administrative County of Glamorgan			.....	..... 18.2
Birth Rate for Rural Districts in Glamorgan			.....	..... 17.6

DEATH RATE.

Crude Death Rate	.....	.....	.....	13.0
Death Rate for England and Wales			.....	11.6
Death rate for administrative County of Glamorgan			.....	12.1
Death rate for Rural Districts in Glamorgan			.....	10.9

STILL BIRTHS.

The 6 Still Births constitute a rate of 22 per 1000 total Births.

PUERPERAL SEPSIS, ETC.

Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis	.....	0
Deaths from other Maternal causes		1
Total	.....	<u>1</u>

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

All infants per 1,000 live births	.....	53
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	.....	50
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	.....	142
Deaths from Cancer (all causes)	.....	25
Deaths from Measles (under 2 years)	.....	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (under 2 years)	.....	—
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	.....	—

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1.—(a) MEDICAL OFFICERS—

D. J. Evans, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.), Medical Officer of Health (Part Time), Medical Officer of Health for Cowbridge Borough Council, Certifying Factory Surgeon for the Cowbridge District.

R. Bruce Munro, M.B., B.S. (London) D.P.H. (Wales), Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics. (Part time).

(b) OTHER OFFICERS—

Ernest Whone, M.B.E., F.S.I.A., Senior Sanitary Inspector (whole time).

Hubert Thomas, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Additional Sanitary Inspector (whole time).

Miss E. Rawnsley, Health Visitor and Tuberculosis Visitor (whole time) Full General Training, Qualified Midwife, and Health Visitors Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

BIRTHS REGISTERED—

Legitimate Live Births	163
Illegitimate Live Births	2
Legitimate Still Births	4
Illegitimate Still Births	—
Transferred Births	95
	— 264

NOTIFIED WITHIN 36 HOURS.

Live Births by Midwives	165
Still Births by Midwives	4
Live Births by Doctors	—
Still Births by Doctors	—

NUMBER OF INFANT DEATHS—

Legitimate, under one year	—
Illegitimate, under one year	—
Legitimate, one to five years	—
Illegitimate, one to five years	—

VISITS PAID BY HEALTH VISITOR—

To Infants under one year	1st Visits	260
do.	Re-Visits	264
To Infants over 1 and under 5	1st Visits	38
do. do.	Re-Visits	1,399
TOTAL		2,061

ANTE-NATAL VISITS to mothers in their own home—

First Visits	.....	26		
Re-Visits	.....	44	Total	70
Puerperal Fever	.....	-	Ophthalmia Neonatorum -
Measles	.....	41	Whooping Cough	..... 30
Hernia, Umbilical	.....	3	Bronchitis	..... 4
Influenza	.....	16	Chicken Pox	..... 8
Pneumonia	.....	-	Mumps	..... 10
Rickets	.....	3	Scarlet Fever	..... 3
Impetigo	.....	10	Ringworm -
Diphtheria	.....	1	Maternal Death	..... 1

CHILD WELFARE CLINICS :—

	Llanharan	Llantwit Major
Number of Sessions	26	12
Number of Names on Register	202	103
First attendances under one year	131	62
Repeat attendances under one year	548	103
First attendances one to five years	71	41
Repeat attendances one to five years	267	46
Total	1,017	252
Average attendance per Clinic	39	21

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS :—

	Llanharan	Llantwit Major
Expectant mothers, first attendances	52	48
Expectant mothers, repeat attendances	76	57
Total	128	105
Number of Sessions	13	12
Average attendance per Clinic	9.8	9

DENTAL TREATMENT :—

Expectant mothers receiving Dental Treatment	10
Expectant or nursing mothers receiving Dentures	14
Children under five years receiving Dental Treatment	8
Children under five years sent to Bridgend Hospital for Tonsillectomy	5
Orthopaedic treatment	1
Ophthalmic treatment	1

MATERNITY HOSPITAL.

Number of Mothers sent to Hospital for Confinement under the Council's Scheme 52
Sale of Baby Food, Virol, Roboleine, etc., approximately £294.

Laboratory Facilities :—

The Laboratory facilities remain the same as for previous years.

Ambulance Facilities.

There is no change in the Ambulance Facilities.

Other Treatment Centres.

Disease	Clinic
Tuberculosis	Welsh National Memorial Clinics at Bridgend and Pontypridd
Venereal Disease	Clinics are held at Pontypridd, Port Talbot and Barry
Mental Diseases	School Clinic at Bridgend and U.D. Council Clinic at Pontypridd

Hospitals.

GENERAL HOSPITALS.

(a) Bridgend Infirmary; (b) Bridgend Cottage Hospital; (c) Cardiff Royal Infirmary.

ORTHOPAEDIC HOSPITAL.

At Crossways, Cowbridge, the Prince of Wales, Cardiff have a Convalescent Hospital at which Orthopaedic cases are treated.

INFECTIOUS CASES.

The Council is a constituent authority of the Isolation Hospital at Cefn Hirgoed, near Bridgend.

MATERNITY HOSPITALS AND NURSING HOMES.

There are no maternity hospitals or nursing homes in the area. Difficult cases from the area are removed to the Maternity Block of the Bridgend Infirmary. Provided the Council receive an undertaking prior to removal that they will be responsible for the whole of the cost of maintenance. Persons not in a position to pay are, in certain cases assisted by the Council. Difficult cases may also be removed to the Cardiff Royal Infirmary.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

(a) Diphtheria.

Twenty cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year. Six of these were negative. Of the remaining fourteen positive cases four occurred among adults (females) over 21 years of age. The eldest person was 43 years of age. Eight of the ten cases among children had not been immunised. One was immunised a year previous to the outbreak of the disease and the other had had diphtheria three years ago. The two latter cases were carriers.

IMMUNISATION.

Number of sessions held throughout the district during the year	10
Number of infants immunised under five years	201
Number of children immunised over five and under 15 years of age	552
	—
TOTAL	753
	—

On the instructions of the Welsh Board of Health, the Health Visitor conducted an active campaign, visiting houses where children had not been immunised and by the end of the year 200 children had been visited in this way.

(b) Tuberculosis.

Twenty-six new cases were notified for the first time during the year. Notified cases are visited by the Tuberculosis Visitor who reports on environmental conditions, etc. Contacts of the cases are advised to undergo examination at the Tuberculosis Clinic. Disinfection of premises and bedding is carried out after removal of the patient to Sanatoria or after death. There were 13 deaths.

(c) Scarlet Fever.

Twenty-five cases of Scarlet Fever were reported. Nineteen cases were admitted to hospital. Three of these cases occurred in one household at St. Athan and six in one household at Llantwit Major. There were no deaths.

(d) Measles and Whooping Cough.

Fourteen cases of Whooping Cough and fourteen cases of Measles were reported. There were no deaths from either of these diseases.

(e) **Cancer.**

The number of deaths from cancer is 25. An increase of nine from last year.

(f) **Cerebro Spinal Fever.**

Of the six cases of Cerebro Spinal Fever reported among civilians four were afterwards found not to be Cerebro-Spinal.

(g) **Scabies.**

Known cases are excluded from School for treatment at home by their family doctor. Severe cases are removed for hospital treatment.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis).

<i>Disease.</i>	<i>Total cases notified.</i>	<i>Cases admitted to Hospital.</i>	<i>Total Deaths.</i>
Scarlet Fever	25	19	—
Whooping Cough	14	—	—
Measles	14	—	2
Cerebro Spinal Fever	6	6	1
Pneumonia	4	—	7†
Erysipelas	2	2	—
Diphtheria	20	20	—
TOTALS	85	47	8

†All forms of pneumonia.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1941.

Age periods	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Resp/y.		Respiratory		Non-Resp/y.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Years.								
Under 1								
1—5				2				
5—15			3	2	1			
15—25	2	5	1			2	1	
25—35	5	1			3			
35—45	1	1		1		1		1
45—55	1		1		2			
55—65					1			
65 & over								1
Totals..	9	7	5	5	7	3	1	2

SANITARY SECTION.—YEAR 1942.

SECTION C.—SAMITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. Water.

(a) Number of Informal Notices served	72;	Work done	63
(b) Properties provided with water under pressure			18

2. Rainfall.

Rainfall for 1942 (Llanharan Station)	.....	.....	47.38 ins.
Rainfall for 1942 (St. Athan Station)	.....	.....	30.49 ins.
Average Rainfall for last five years (Llanharan)	.....	.....	49.00 ins.

3. Water Samples.

Four samples of water were taken. The results may be summarised as follows :—

Two samples were satisfactory.

Two samples were unsatisfactory.

The two satisfactory and one unsatisfactory samples were taken from the Public Mains, while the remaining unsatisfactory sample was taken from a private supply. The unsatisfactory result of the water from the Public Mains was due to inadequate flushing of the mains. Definite action was taken with respect to the unsatisfactory samples with satisfactory result.

4. Drainage and Sewerage.

- (a) INSPECTION OF DRAINAGE. 383 inspections were made of new and existing drainage works.
- (b) Number of drains choked and released 114.
- (c) Connections made to Council's sewer (all schemes) during 1942, 46.
- (d) DISPOSAL WORKS. The Sewage Disposal works have been fairly satisfactory as regards effluents. Running repairs and maintenance work has been carried out as required.
- (e) SEWERS. There has been no serious difficulty experienced. No serious chokages have occurred. Extensions to sewers have been made on certain housing sites.

5. Rivers and Streams.

In two cases only was definite investigation necessary. As a result certain information was passed on to the appropriate authority.

6. Closet Accommodation.

Conversions from pail to water carriage system 7

New Public Conveniences, consisting of four water closets and one lavatory basin have been provided.

7. Public Cleansing.

The contracts remain the same as for 1941, viz. :—

House-to-house collections	.....	.....	.....	.....	9
Public Bins	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
					—
TOTAL	.....				11
					—

8. Salvage.

	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>
Total weight of waste paper and cardboard collected and disposed of	62	3	3
Total weight of rags collected and disposed of	2	10	0
Total weight of bones collected and disposed of	2	7	0
Total weight of rubber collected and disposed of	3	4	2
Total weight of ferrous metal collected and disposed of	18	19	0
Total weight of non-ferrous metal collected and disposed of	0	3	0
Total weight of string and sacking collected and disposed of	0	3	3
TOTAL	89	11	0

9. Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Two houses were treated in one part of the area. Treatment consisted of the application of a fluid chemical agent to all woodwork, cracks, etc. and subsequent fumigation with sulphur dioxide. A further application of these chemicals was made nine days after the first treatment. On further inspection no live bed bugs were found.

10. Schools.

No action was necessary at any of the schools as the condition in every case was considered to be of a general good standard.

11. Factories Act, 1938.

Thirty inspections were made. Action was taken in two incidences. In one case the work was carried out while the work in the other was in hand at the end of the year. The work comprised of the provision of Elsan Chemical Closets and building to house same.

12. Petroleum.

There was one prosecution for the storage of Petrol without a licence.

Number of Petroleum Licences issued during the year 25.

13. Shops and Offices.

No action was necessary under this heading.

14. Cinemas.

The two Cinemas in the area are regularly inspected. The conditions were found to be generally good.

15. Camping Sites.

No sites were licenced in the area during the year.

16. Smoke Abatement.

There were no cases demanding formal action.

17. Swimming Baths and Pools.

Informal inspections are made at the privately owned swimming baths in the area and also the bath owned by the Cowbridge Borough Council. The conditions were found to be satisfactory.

Table No. 2 INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1.—*Milk Supply.*

(a) Number of inspections made at Cowsheds, Dairies and Milk Shops	.....	.....	.....	113
(b) Informal Notices	.....	.....	.....	8
(c) Work carried out	.....	.....	.....	7
(d) Examination of samples for Bacteriological purposes—				
(i) Ungraded and Untreated	.....		20	
(ii) Pasteurised	.....	.....	10	30

2.—*Food and Drugs Act, 1938. (Milk and Dairies.)*

(a) Applications for Registration—				
(i) Producers	.....	.....	10	
(ii) Farms as Dairies	.....	.....	10	
(iii) Retail Purveyors of milk	.....		2	
			—	22
(b) Registration cancelled by reason of ceasing to produce milk				
(i) Producers	.....	.....	2	
(ii) Farms as Dairies	.....	.....	2	
(iii) Purveyors of Milk	.....	.....	—	4
(c) Number of Producers registered	.....	.....		298
(d) Number of Farms as Dairies	.....	.....		298
(e) Wholesale traders	.....	.....		1
(f) Retail Purveyors of Milk	.....	.....		97

3.—*Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Section 268 (Ice Cream and Preserved Foods).*

Number of Licensed premises—

(a) For the manufacture for the purpose of sale of ice cream, or the storage of ice cream intend for sale	.....	.....	.....	15
(b) For the sale of ice cream	.....	.....	.....	19
(c) For the preparation or manufacture of sausages, or potted, pressed pickled or preserved food intended for sale	.....	.....	.....	15
			—	49

4.—*Milk (Special Designations) Order 1936—1938 :*

(a) Number of Pasteurising Plants registered	.....			1
(b) Number of Supplementary licences issued	.....			1
(c) Number of Producers of Tuberculin Tested Milk who bottle milk on their premises	.....	.....		1

(d) Number of producers of Tuberculin Tested milk	—
(e) Number of Producers of Accredited Milk who bottle milk on their premises	1
(f) Number of Producers of Accredited Milk	16

The Licencing Authority for the above (excepting (a) and (b) is the Glamorgan County Council).

5.—*Meat and other Foods—*

(a) Meat Shops, Meat Vans, etc., inspected	66
(b) Total Meat surrendered during the year	289 lbs.
(c) Tinned Meat and Tinned Fish sur- rendered	298 lbs. (132 tins)
(d) Miscellaneous Tinned Foods sur- rendered	19 lbs. (25 tins)
(e) Margarine surrendered	106½ lbs.
(f) Butter surrendered	59½ lbs.
(g) Lard surrendered	8 lbs.
(h) Fish surrendered	74 lbs.
(i) Poultry (ten Chickens)	30 lbs.
Total meat and other food sur- rendered	884 lbs.

7. *Summary of Milk samples results :—*

- (a) Untreated Mixed Milk—8 unsatisfactory.
- (b) Ungraded Milks.—3 satisfactory; 9 unsatisfactory.
- (c) Pasteurised Milk.—9 satisfactory; 1 unsatisfactory.

TABLE 1.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

	No. of Inspections	Informal Notices	Work done	Work not done	Work in hand	Statutory Notices	Work done	Work not done	Work in hand	Demolition orders	Clearance Area
Sewers and Sewage Disposal	115										
Drains Inspection & Testing	383										
Meat and other Foods ...	66										
Cowsheds, Dairies & Milk sh's	113	8	7	1							
Housing ...	456	149	144	5							
„ recorded ..	3										
Public Health Act Nuisances	435	109	93	15		16	14	2			
Infectious Disease Inspectio's	80										
Disinfections ..	68										
Workshops, etc. ...	30	2	1		1						
House Refuse, Collection and Disposal	688										
Water Supplies ..	170	72	63	9	1	1			1		
Cinemas ...	2										
Petroleum ..	1										
Works in Progress ...	191										
General ..	1564										
Totals ...	4365	360	308	30	2	17	14	2	1		

Table No. 3.

**SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT IN THE
DISTRICT IN PURSUANCE OF INSPECTIONS
MADE AND NOTICES SERVED.**

1.—Interiors of Houses—

a. Filthy Houses cleansed and whitewashed	—	
b. Houses in which repairs to plastering brickwork or woodwork have been carried out	39	
c. Portable Boilers, Back Boilers repaired	23	
d. Houses without sufficient means of ventilation, window openings enlarged or repaired	35	
e. Floors relaid or repaired	11	
f. Fireplaces repaired	41	
g. Ceilings refixed	6	
	—	155

2.—Exteriors of Houses—

a. Defective roofs made watertight	18	
b. Houses without eaves gutters, gutters repaired or provided, etc.	11	
c. Damp Walls - Brickwork repaired or covered with impervious material	5	
d. Dangerous chimneys repaired or repointed	4	
e. Miscellaneous	2	
	—	40

3.—Drainage—

a. Sink and sink waste repairs	9	
b. Number of manhole inspection chambers provided to drainage system	—	
c. Choked drainage system opened and cleansed	114	
d. New drains	11	
	—	134

4.—Privies, Water Closets, and Ashpits—

a. Sanitary Pails provided	3	
b. Defective W.C.'s, repaired and made good	73	
c. Baths and connections made good. Flushing pro- vided to Water Closets	13	
d. Cesspools emptied	6	
e. Urinals repaired	1	
	—	96

5.—Water Supply—

a. Repairs to cold water services, etc.	72	
b. Taps provided or repaired	17	
c. Hot water services repaired	35-124	

